

I. REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are in the case. Claims 5-7, 20-22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-8, 10-11, 16-18 and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over JP 02-0930062 to Nakamura.

Claims 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nakamura in view of U.S. 5,945,163 to Powell and/or U.S. 6,383,301 to Bell. Claims 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Nakamura in view of U.S. 2003/0054105 by Hammond. Claims 23-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious and therefore unpatentable over Nakamura.

Claims 1-13, 16 and 21-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over DE 2,513,813 to Hill. Claims 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Hill in view of Powell and/or Bell. Claims 1-13 and 16-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Hill in view of Hammond. Finally, Claims 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Hill in view of Hammond, and further in view of Powell and/or Bell.

The rejections are respectfully traversed.